COCA Update
Clinician Outreach and Communication Activity (COCA)
CDC Emergency Communication System

September 28, 2015

This issue contains guidance documents relevant to current public health events and information from **September 14 – September 28**.

COCA Updates are disseminated biweekly. More frequent distributions may occur when there is emergency information or an event-specific update to share. The next COCA Update is scheduled for **October 13**.

For questions about these or other clinical issues, please write to us at **coca@cdc.gov**.

Additional Resources
CDC Emergency on Twitter
CDC Health Partners Outreach on Facebook
COCA Home Page

Topics and Highlights
COCA News and Announcements

CDC Emergency Response

CDC News and Announcements

Public Health Preparedness

Natural Disasters and Severe Weather

Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report (MMWR)

Infectious, Vector-Borne and Zoonotic Disease

Travel Safety

Food, Drug and Device Safety

COCA News and Announcements
Upcoming COCA Webinars/Calls:
How To Prevent and Control Pediatric Influenza
Date: Thursday, October 1, 2015
Time: 2:00 - 3:00 pm (Eastern Time)
Dial In Number: 888-469-1370 (U.S. Callers); 517-308-9218 (International Callers)
Passcode: 3791890
Webinar: www.mymeetings.com/nc/join.php?i=PW5219520&p=3791890&t=c
Children, especially those with chronic medical conditions or neurologic and neurodevelopmental disorders, are at higher risk of influenza-associated complications. Influenza prevention and control strategies in this at-risk population should include annual seasonal influenza immunization for all people 6 months and older and prompt antiviral treatment when influenza disease is indicated. During this COCA call, subject matter experts will discuss strategies that providers can use to improve influenza prevention and control in children at highest risk.
emergency.cdc.gov/coca/calls/2015/callinfo_100115.asp

Recent COCA Webinars/Calls:
The Role of Clinicians in Addressing the Opioid Overdose Epidemic
Date: Thursday, September 24, 2015
emergency.cdc.gov/coca/calls/2015/callinfo_092415.asp

Weathering the Storm — Understanding the Mental Health Impact of Hurricane Sandy
Date: Thursday, September 17, 2015
emergencylink.cdc.gov/coca/calls/2015/callinfo_091715.asp

Archived COCA conference calls are available at emergency.cdc.gov/coca/calls/index.asp.
Free continuing education credits (CME, CNE, ACPE, CEU, CECH, and AAVSB/RACE) are available for most calls. For more information about free CE, visit emergency.cdc.gov/coca/continuingeducation.asp

CDC Emergency Response – CDC Response to 2014 Ebola in the United States and West Africa

NEW: **Enhanced entry screening ends for travelers from Liberia**

On September 21, 2015, enhanced entry screening was discontinued for travelers coming to the United States from Liberia. This follows a CDC determination that the risk of Ebola importation into the United States by travelers from Liberia is low and that Liberia has implemented effective control measures.

- Travelers will continue to undergo exit screening before leaving Liberia.
- Travelers coming from Liberia will no longer be funneled through the five U.S. airports that are conducting enhanced entry screening.
- CDC recommends travelers coming to the United States from Liberia watch their health for possible symptoms of illness (feeling feverish, diarrhea, vomiting, weakness, fatigue, stomach pain, muscle pain, or unexplained bleeding or bruising) until 21 days after leaving Liberia. They should contact their state or local health department or seek health care should symptoms develop.
- Entry screening and monitoring measures have not changed for travelers entering the United States from Guinea or Sierra Leone. This includes travelers from Liberia who have also traveled to either Guinea or Sierra Leone within the previous 21 days. For more information, see CDC's Interim U.S. Guidance for Monitoring and Movement of Persons with Potential Ebola Virus Exposure.

CDC recommends healthcare providers screen all patients for travel and exposure history as well as symptoms to quickly implement infection control protocols, and ensure patients get appropriate care without delay. For travelers from Guinea, Sierra Leone, and, in particular, Liberia, CDC recommends that healthcare providers not only consider Ebola, but other diseases for which quick evaluation and treatment are important, such as malaria.

CDC has resources available for clinical healthcare providers, healthcare workers, and health departments who are coordinating the evaluation of persons under investigation (PUIs) for Ebola to help determine when to enact infection control, notify state and local health departments, and guide patient care based on evaluated risk factors. These resources can be found here: http://www.cdc.gov/vhf/ebola/healthcare-us/evaluating-patients/evaluating-travelers.html

NEW: **Emergency Guidelines Implementation and management of contact tracing for Ebola virus disease**
apps.who.int/iris/bitstream/10665/185258/1/WHO_EVD_Guidance_Contact_15.1_eng.pdf?ua=1

UPDATE: **Case Counts**
www.cdc.gov/vhf/ebola/outbreaks/2014-west-africa/case-counts.html

CDC News and Announcements

UPDATE: **National Preparedness Month**

September is National Preparedness Month, and more than 3,000 organizations across the nation will join CDC in encouraging Americans to take action to be prepared. This year, CDC will focus on communities of preparedness and will target messaging and products to the following groups:

- Week one: Family
- Week two: Neighborhood
- Week three: Workplace and School
- Week four: Global
- Final four days: Online Social Media Community

For each topic in September, CDC's Office of Public Health Preparedness and Response (OPHPR) plans to release Public Health Matters blog posts, social media messages (including a Twitter chat and a Thunderclap), and graphics. Visit CDC's National Preparedness Month web page for links to all of its National Preparedness Month content.
emergency.cdc.gov/npm/index.asp

CDC Science Clips: Volume 7, Issue: 38 – (CDC)
Each week select science clips are shared with the public health community to enhance awareness of emerging scientific knowledge. The focus is applied public health research and prevention science that has the capacity to improve health now.
www.cdc.gov/library/sciclips/issues/

Public Health Preparedness

Emergency Preparedness and Response – (CDC)
Find preparedness resources for all hazards.
emergency.cdc.gov/hazards-all.asp

Emergency Preparedness and Response Training Resources for Clinicians – (CDC)
Find online and in-person training resources at
emergency.cdc.gov/coca/trainingresources.asp

Natural Disasters and Severe Weather

Food and Water Needs: Preparing for a Disaster or Emergency – (CDC)
emergency.cdc.gov/disasters/foodwater/prepare.asp

Health and Safety Concerns for All Disasters – (CDC)
emergency.cdc.gov/disasters/alldisasters.asp

Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report (MMWR)

MMWR publications are prepared by CDC. To electronically subscribe, go to
www.cdc.gov/mmwr/mmwrsubscribe.html
September 25, 2015 / Vol. 64 / No. 37 Download .pdf document of this issue
- Global Progress Toward Rubella and Congenital Rubella Syndrome Control and Elimination — 2000–2014
- *Notes from the Field:* Vancomycin-Resistant *Staphylococcus aureus* — Delaware, 2015
- CDC Grand Rounds: Addressing Preparedness Challenges for Children in Public Health Emergencies

Infectious, Vector-Borne, and Zoonotic Diseases

Seasonal Influenza

What You Should Know for the 2015-2016 Influenza Season
www.cdc.gov/flu/about/season/upcoming.htm

Information for Health Professionals
www.cdc.gov/flu/professionals/index.htm

Weekly Flu View – September 25 (CDC)
Flu View is a weekly influenza surveillance report prepared by CDC's Influenza Division. All data are preliminary and may change as CDC receives more reports.
www.cdc.gov/flu/weekly/

Planning and Preparedness: Health Professionals and Seasonal Flu – (HHS)
Healthcare providers play an important role during flu season. The following guidance and information will assist healthcare providers and service organizations to plan and respond to seasonal flu.
www.flu.gov/planning-preparedness/hospital/index.html

Travel Safety

Current Travel Warnings – September 25 (U.S. Department of State)
The U.S. Department of State issues Travel Warnings when long-term, protracted conditions make a country dangerous or unstable. Travel Warnings recommend that Americans avoid or carefully consider the risk of travel to that country. The State Department also issues Travel Warnings when the U.S. government's ability to assist American citizens is constrained due to the closure of an embassy or consulate or because of a drawdown of State Department staff.
travel.state.gov/content/passports/english/alertswarnings.html

Food, Drug, and Device Safety

NEW: FDA Investigates Outbreak of Listeria Linked to Soft Cheeses Distributed by Karoun Dairies Inc. – (FDA)
The U.S. Food and Drug Administration along with the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and state and local officials are investigating several cases of listeriosis.
www.fda.gov/Food/RecallsOutbreaksEmergencies/Outbreaks/ucm463289.htm

MedWatch: The FDA Safety Information and Adverse Event Reporting Program – (FDA)
MedWatch is your Food and Drug Administration (FDA) gateway for clinically important safety information and reporting serious problems with human medical products.
www.fda.gov/Safety/MedWatch/default.htm

FoodSafety.gov: Reports of FDA and USDA Food Recalls, Alerts, Reporting, and Resources – (HHS/USDA/FDA/CDC/NIH)
Foodsafety.gov lists notices of recalls and alerts from both FDA and the U.S. Department of Agriculture. Visitors to the site can report a problem or make inquiries.
www.foodsafety.gov/recalls/recent/index.html

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For information about this update or other clinical issues, or to send your feedback, please contact us at *coca@cdc.gov*

CDC Health Partners Outreach Facebook page – real time updates, guidance, and situational awareness for public health partners on Facebook
Clinician Outreach and Communication Activity – resources for health care providers
COCA RSS Feed – subscribe to be notified of conference calls, updates, and CDC guidance for health providers
Crisis & Emergency Risk Communication Training – training program that draws from lessons learned during public health emergencies, and incorporates best practices from the fields of risk and crisis communication
Health Alert Network – CDC's primary method of sharing cleared information about urgent public health incidents with public information officers; federal, state, territorial, and local public health practitioners; clinicians; and public health laboratories

To **unsubscribe**, please send an email to coca@cdc.gov with "**unsubscribe**" in the subject line. CDC COCA Listserv unsubscribe link below is not active. Please email COCA to unsubscribe.